

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/628,078

Examiner

Long Nguyen

Applicant(s)

KIM ET AL.

Art Unit

2816

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 8/31/04 and the phone interview on 9/23/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5, 7 and 10-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                                 |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>9/23/04</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                        |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.  |

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Clover Huang on 9/23/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

**In The Claims**

Claim 1, line 3, "parallel;" has been changed to --parallel, wherein each of the plurality of current devices comprising a semiconductor device for generating a first current; and--.

Claim 1, line 6, "the first current devices provides a first current and" has been deleted.

Claim 1, line 8, "a switching device" has been changed to --wherein each of the plurality of current devices further comprising a diode--.

Claim 4, line 2, "first current" has been changed to --semiconductor--.

Claim 5, line 2, "first current" has been changed to --semiconductor--.

Claim 7, line 3, "switching device" has been changed to --diode--.

Claim 8 has been canceled.

Claim 12, line 3, "parallel; and" has been changed to --parallel, wherein each of the plurality of current devices comprising a semiconductor device for generating a first current; and--.

Claim 12, line 5, "the first current devices provides a first current and" has been deleted.

Art Unit: 2816

Claim 12, line 7, "a switching device" has been changed to --wherein each of the plurality of current devices further comprising a diode--.

**Reasons For The Above Changes**

The above changes have been made according to the agreement between the Examiner and the applicant's representative (Ms. Clover Huang) during the phone interview on 9/23/04.

**REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

2. Claims 1-5, 7 and 10-12 are allowed.

Claims 1 and 12 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest a line driver or method thereof which includes a first current device comprising a plurality of current devices connected in parallel, wherein each of the plurality of current devices comprising a semiconductor device for providing a first current and a diode configured to limit the first current; and a second current device for providing a second current that is smaller than the first current.

Claims 2-5, 7, 10 and 11 are allowed because they depend on claim 1.

***Conclusion***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Long Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1753. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached at (571) 272-1740. The fax number for this group is (703) 872-9306.

Art Unit: 2816

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

September 23, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Long Nguyen', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Long Nguyen  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 2816